Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Texas

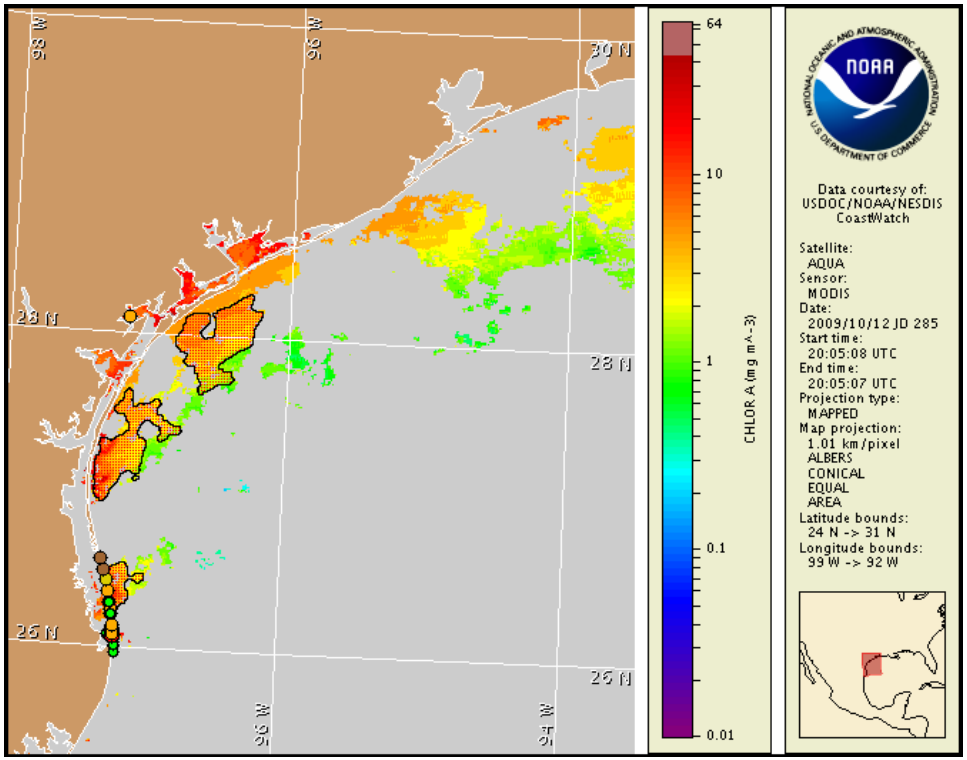
13 October 2009

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: October 8, 2009



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from October 3 to 12 shown as red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue(very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HABFS bulletin guide:

http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf

Conditions Report

A harmful algal bloom has been identified along the coast of Southern Padre to South Padre Islands. Moderate impacts are possible in this region through Thursday.

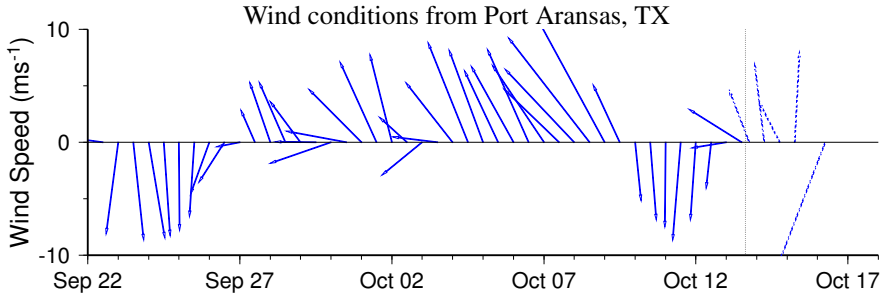
Analysis

A bloom continues to persist in Southern Texas. The Imaging Flow CytoBot detected elevated levels of red tide coming through the pass at Port Aransas over the weekend, although no cells were found from the CytoBot from Monday's samples around Port Aransas. This indicates that the bloom may be patchy.

High cell counts (>1000 cells/mL) were reported around South Padre Island and the bloom was dominated by K. brevis, as opposed to last week when other Karenia species were present as well. South Padre Island is experiencing aerosols, and also dead fish began washing on the shore Monday afternoon.

Recent imagery continues to show elevated chlorophyll along the Texas coast, which could contain K. brevis, but could also be due to resuspension, as a result of strong winds. Forecast models indicate that northward transport of the bloom is unlikely. Sampling is recommended.

-Wynne, Tomlinson

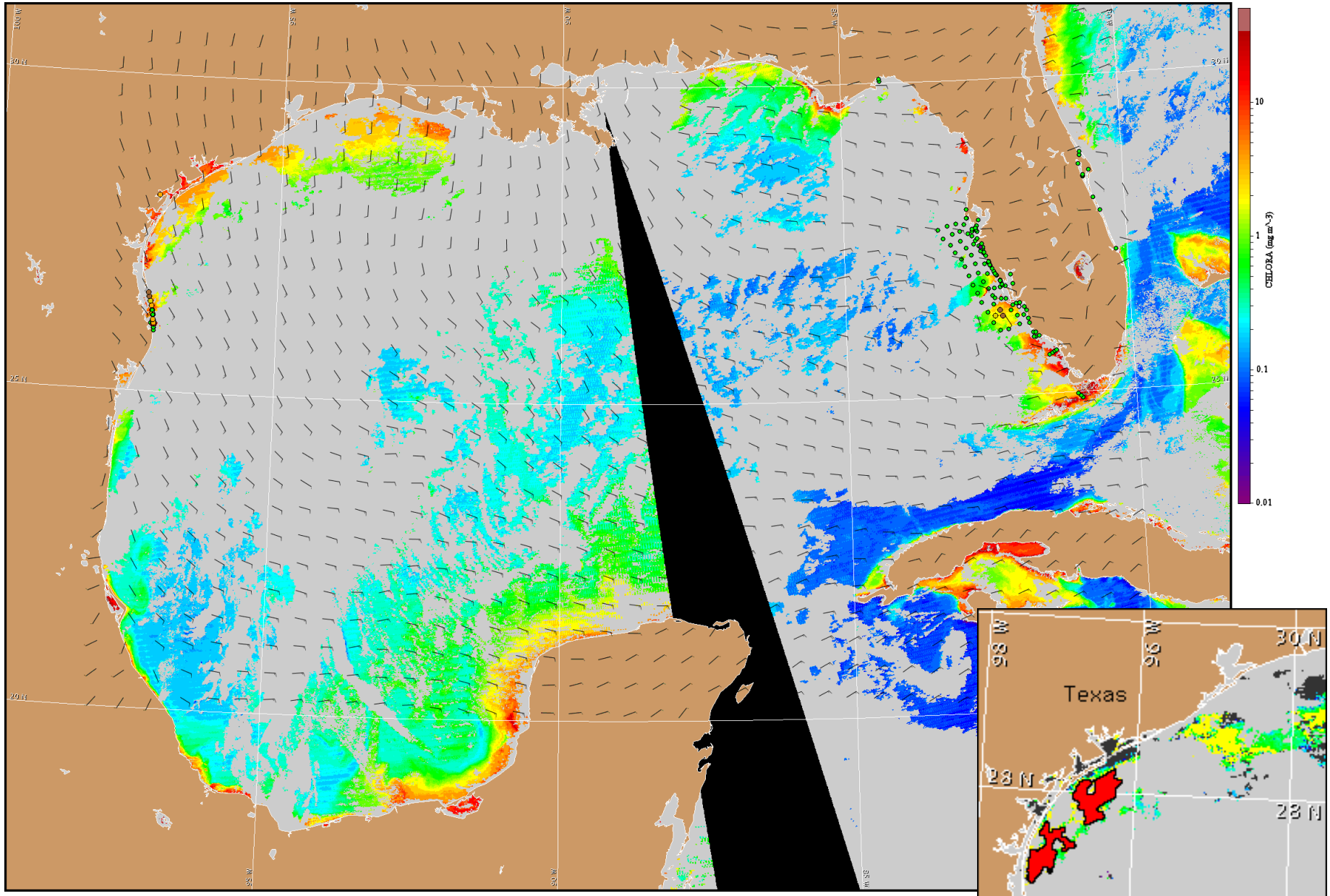


Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts. Wind observation and forecast data provided by NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS).

Wind Analysis

SE wind tonight at 10-15 knots. S wind Wednesday and Thursday at 10-15 knots. NE wind Friday at 15-20 knots and then decreasing to 10-15 knots. NE wind Saturday at 5-10 knots.

To see previous bulletins and forecasts for other Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin regions, visit the NOAA CoastWatch bulletin archive: http://coastwatch.noaa.gov/hab/bulletins_ns.htm



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for October 14, 2009 12Z with Cell concentration sampling data from October 3 to 12 shown as red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue(very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HABFS bulletin guide:
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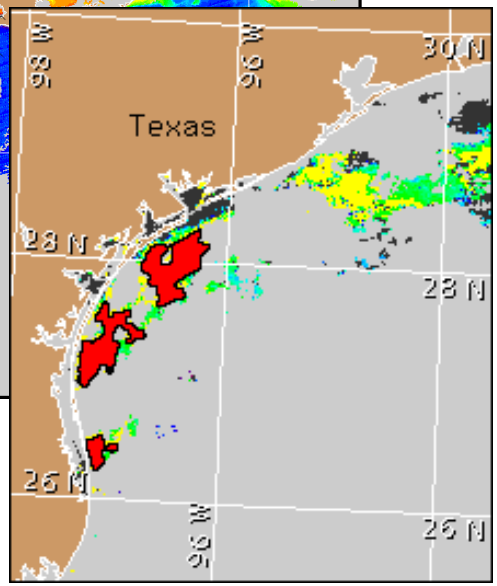

Verifi ed and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).